ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for generating software test information is disclosed. The method comprises the steps of: a) generating, from a sequence of instructions, at least one of which includes a condition code, a corresponding sequence of generated instructions, for selected instructions having a condition code the corresponding generated instruction being a predetermined generated instruction having a corresponding condition code; b) executing, on a target processor, the sequence of generated instructions; and c) when during the step (b) the predetermined generated instruction is encountered, determining with reference to status information associated with the operation of the target processor whether the condition code of the predetermined generated instruction is satisfied and, if so, replacing the predetermined generated instruction with the corresponding instruction from the sequence of instructions so as to cause the corresponding instruction to be executed. Providing a condition code with the generated instruction reduces the time taken to determine whether that condition code is satisfied. This is because it is possible to make the determination without invoking a software handler routine and instead the faster target processor hardware can be used. Hence, the performance when generating software test information is significantly improved.

Figure 4B.